

A TRUE DISCOURSE OF
an overthrow giuen to the armie of the
Leaguers in Prouince;

By Messieurs D'Esdiuieres and
Laualette.

Translated verbatim out of the French Copie, Printed
at Tours by Iamet Mettayer.



L O N D O N,
Printed by Thomas Purfoot, dwelling in
Saint Nicholas shambles within the
New-sens,



THE DISCOVERY

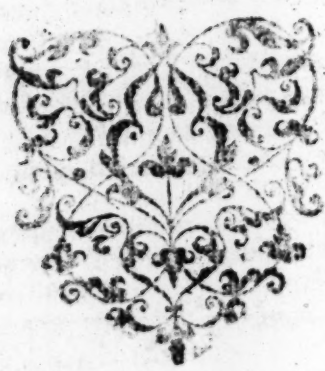
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*A true discourse of an ouerthrow giuen to the
armie of the Leaguers in Prouince, vpon Monday
in Easter weeke, being the 15 day of Aprill
last past. 1592.*

Our gracious God seemeth to sleepe for a season and
to be carelesse of his chosen people, that he may bee
glorified in his woonderfull workes, by bringing
them which trust to much in humaine strength into
the consideration of his vnspokeable power, who take th
pleasure in y strength of men, but scattereth the great hostes
and squadrons of such as arme themselves contrary to his
will, euen as chaffe before the winde, and in the twinkling
of an eye (as it were) dooth so abate their pride, that by the
hand of a few of his people he bringeth them to nought, ma
king them equall with the dust, and leauing them as a preie
to be deuoured of doolues, and such lyke rauinous beastes.

The enemies had great confidence in the King of Spaine
(now called out of this worlde to render an account before
the soueraign Monarch, of the manifold extorsions and no
torious cruelties committed by him) who assured themselves
that he would send so many men of warre into all partes of
Fraunce (as he hath done, though in vaine) that in shorte
time he might vanquish and subdue the king and gaine his
Crowne. For the same cause, vpon the death of this Aech
tyrant king, the Duke of Sauoy is gone into Spaine, and hath
giuen ouer the enterprise he purposed against the towne of
Marseilles, which by sundrie waies and meanes he had pra

vised with diuers of the inhabitants who receined into their
town some state of some, causing such men as they suspected
and would not be conformable to their wills, to forsake the
town, which things they had done by so much the more wil-
lingly as they suffered the to slip easilie into the nets of their
rebellion, some of their owne accord, some others by y^e helpe
and assistance of a puissant arrae of the Spaniards, Sa-
uoiens, and Prouincials which marched within the coun-
trei vnder the conduct of the Count Martinéga, of Monsieur
de Vitelli Colonel of the Duke of Sauoies horsemen leaguers,
and of Mons. S. Roman general of the footmen who know-
ing that Melsieurs D'Eldiguieres and Lauallette, were ioined
on that side which Riez lieth on, and that Mons. Lauallette
was departed for the same intent from Cisteron the 13 daye
of April, hauing caused certaine perces of ordinaunce to be
brought with their troopes, and seeing likewise y^e they might
greatly hinder their enterpises, resolved to approach neare
vnto them, not so much to prouoke them to a battle, in that
they were foure to one, as thinking to keepe them at a baye,
and so cause them to retire. But they could not bee ignorant
hauing had so great prooue of the wise conduct, singular
watchfulness, and prosperous successe of this valiant Cap-
tain Mons. D'Eldiguieres, who being aided by the venterous
champion Seigneur Lauallette, and armed with a iust cause
in defence of their king and state, not fearing the great num-
ber of the enemies, whome with courage and resolution he
valiauntly charged so oft as there was occasion, as maye
more euidently appeare by this discourse ensuing.

Spatron is a village and a castell in Proaince, about fyue
leagues from Aix, the Lord whereof in times past held him-
selfe newter, taking neither partie: neuerthelesse hee enter-
tained in his Castell the Lord gouernour of the partie roy-
all and his troupe. A great number of the Sauoien horse-
men

men went to lodge in the same village of Sparon, Robt Mel-
fieur D'Esdiuieres and Laualette receiving advertisement of
the enemies being there, without delay they marched thi-
ther also with their forces, and on monday in Easter weeke
being the 15 of the same moneth did assaile them with such
fury and resolution that in a short space recovering the best
aduantage, they gaue them an bitter overthrow: they took
15 Ensigns, foure Cornets from the horsemen, 500 horses
to hose owners lay dead in the place, & about 250 gentlemen
well mounted were caried away prisoners by a composition
made at the same time in the village. The Seigneur of Vitelly,
collonell of the duke of Sanoies horsemen leaguers, and
Monf. S. Romani, geuerall of the enemies footmen did yeelde
themselves prisoners also. The frenchmen of Prouince wer
sent home to their houses by the said Lordes D'Esdiuieres
& Laualette with each one a white stick in his hand. More
then 500 Sanoies were sent to Tollon to Monf. Laualette his
gallies, therein requiting the duke of Sauoy with such mea-
sure as he had meated vnto some of his kings troups before.
The most part of the forts & strong holds of Prouince, wher-
of the rebels had commaundement, hearing of so great an
ouethrow to be giuen their side, are reduced & brought un-
der the kings obedience excepting only the citie of Aix which
his said Lords haue with al diligence emiironed & blocked in.

The Count Martinenga who had the leading of 800 Horse-
men perceiuing that there was nothing to be gayned but
blowes, & that the said Lords & their troups spared not to
lay on loades, resolved therefore to trust to their legges and
to saue themselves by flight with 300 horse which were all
could escape from that encounter: the rest were all either
slayne or taken: & our souldiers & men of war, besides ma-
ny riche prisoners, got in this conflict about 350. horses of
seruice, there were also thirtie Captaynes taken besides
the two commanders. Monf. Laualette hath armed two
galleys at Tollon: & these two noble Lords prosecuting their
notable victorie haue wonne his towngs of Nigne and Lines, and
it is said that Mougion is now in parle to render vnto the
king and to take off the rebellious poke.

Thus we see that humane forces both in anding the ordi-
nauices of God, are in a moment overwelmed.

The King of Spaine is dead, who was the greatest suppo-
rter of the league, & the rebellion in France. The Leaguers
haue lost a puissant armie of Spaniards, Sanoiens, and
other strangers in Prouince, which is now God be thanked
almost all subdued. Italy is disburdened sundry waies, by
the death of this tyrant. The King on the other side is prou-
dent in his affaires, which the Lord doth daily prosper with
his heauenly blessing. Moreover there are two regiments
of V Vallons defeated in Picardy. God exerciseth his iustice
more and more vpon his enemies, seeing that the clemencie
of the Prince whome hee hath giuen vnto vs serueth to no
purpose to bring them to reason, and that now at this in-
stant they are so stubbozne, that vnder the Duke of Maines
authoritie, they will at a certaine day of the moneth haue a
conuention of all their partisans rebels in the towne of Reims
there to hold an assembly of estates to consult of the affairs
of the league, which are in a pittifull taking vpon the vner-
pected death of the King of Spaine, which is so preiudiciall to
their rebellious faction.

Mounseieur de Nemours to counterpoise a matter so wor-
thy of regard by the rebels in Prouince, & thinking to mende
by that which was so come on their side, being at Lions a
little after this ouerthrow giuen, sent into Daulphine three
or foure hundred horse, carrieng with them good store of
ladders and Petarts, and hauing passed the Liser towards
la Roche, and leauing their horses on this side, marched a
league on foot being armed, and would haue planted their
ladders, and giuen a skalado to Valence, but they came not
within musquet shot thereof: for returning in hast being
pursued, they left 37 ladders in a barrie, within a quarter of
a league of Valence. They had so ill lucke through their
long

long retreat that they lost 80 or 100 of their horses, wherof some were woorth 800 crownes, and yet were constrained to returne againe without doing any seruice.

The Leaguers being but a few which could escape at the ouer throw of Sparron haue sente to seeke their maister the Duke of Sauoy in Spaine, and are in great perplexitie because they heare no newes of his Excellencie. He hath lost more by his departure than he shall gaine at his returne.

We are to giue God thanks for so many blessings wherewith it pleaseth him to endue the King and his affairs to recomfort in the end his good subiects so much oppressed, and almost burnt as it were with the fire of ciuill wars, kindled by the rebels, who go about to continue it: howbeit the king of compassion vpon the poore & miserable estate of his subiects, more than of desire to establish himselfe in that which appertaineth vnto him, doth enforce himselfe by all meanes and chiefly by his mildnesse, mercifulnesse and clemencie towards the vanquished rebels, to quenche and put out wholly this fire which they sought to entertaine, whereby his people and commonwealth might flourish in an vniuersall peace.

(. . .)

F I N I S.